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# A First Banding and Nesting Record For Iowa The Chuck-will's-widow

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We will never forget May 10, 1969. Few Iowa bird lovers or banders would under the same circumstances. And yet, as we furled our nets in the dimming light with the help of Donald G. Johnson, we were tired and could think of little to gloat about. We were at Camp Arrowhead, the YMCA camp three miles southeast of Ottumwa, and though it should have been the peak of the migration season we had only banded twenty-two birds of thirteen species that day. Finally the last net was furled and we started back to our cars. A Cardinal and a Robin were joining with several Whip-poor-wills and countless insects in nature's orchestral accompaniment to the falling curtain of night when the call came. We stopped in our tracks and waited for it to be repeated. Again it came! Then, though we had never heard the voice before except on bird records, the name was pronounced so clearly that recognition was immediate. We checked the time and found it was 8:45 P.M. DST. The call was repeated at intervals of one to two seconds. It was a four note call or song, the first note short, the next two with slightly increased emphasis and the last was a trifle lower and with less emphasis. Chuck-will's-widow, chuck-will's-widow, chuck-will's widow, the notes were distinct. We later had occasion to hear them even at distances up to a quarter of a mile. From our observations the emphasis is greatest by a slight degree on the third note. Using a tape recorder, which we usually carry with us, we began to record the bird's vocal effort. It was one of our most interesting and unusual recording sessions. As far as we knew the song had not been recorded before in Iowa and certainly not in Wapello County. At times we were able to get fairly close to the singer, then in the darkness he would move and the voice would come from another direction and distance. This recording was played at the Iowa Ornithologists' Union meeting held at West Lake Okiboji, Iowa, the following weekend, May 16, 17 and 18.

Hearing this new species of bird utter its strange call raised a number of very interesting thoughts in our minds. Among these was the possibility of banding the largest member of the Goatsucker family which we were sure had not been banded before in Iowa. To help us we read all material pertaining to the bird in our library and for those interested we particularly recommend the fine account by Alexander Sprunt, Jr., in *Bent's Life Histories of North American Cuckoos, Goatsuckers, Hummingbirds and their Allies*, as well as those contained *South Carolina Bird Life* by Sprunt and Chamberlain, and Bendire's *Life Histories of North American Birds* Vol. 1.

On Saturday, May 24, we made our first try at netting the "chuck", placing our nets at the edge of an open playing field next to the scrub woods where the bird had been heard. We planned on using the recording of its voice which we had made on May 10, but found that in our excitement we had left it at home. It was something like going birding and forgetting one's binoculars. This left us two choices. We could either go home and get the recording which meant driving about ten miles,

or we could hope that the "chuck" would tune up again. We decided on the latter course and waited. As we did so a number of thoughts entered our minds. What if he had left the area? What if he didn't feel like calling? We even wondered if birds ever get laryngitis or should we more properly call it syrinxitis? At about 9 P.M. the "chuck" set our minds at rest when it began vocalizing. For ten minutes we recorded, then getting into our car moved in near to the nets and played the recording we had just made. Response was almost immediate, the answer coming from the woods near the place where some of our nets were located. However, the bird apparently became either wary or weary of responding to its own voice for it moved much farther away. The tape was played intermittently from then on with the voice answering us from first one place and then from another as the "chuck" changed location. In the darkness we could not see it in flight though no doubt it passed rather close to us. This procedure continued till about 12:55 A.M. the following morning, Sunday, May 25. At this time one of the nets was seen to be moving as we played a flashlight on it and a new world's record must have been set as we covered the distance to that net. In it we found a female Chuck-will's-widow. We knew it was a "chuck" because it was much bulkier than a Whip-poor-will and several inches longer, its actual measurement being twelve inches. We knew it was a female because the tail feathers lacked any white. And what a mouth it had! It was fully two inches wide. When later we read that small birds such as hummingbirds, sparrows and warblers had been found in the stomachs of "chucks" we did not find it difficult to believe. After we had banded the bird we put her in a holding cage to be photographed. While she was in this cage a second "chuck" kept calling and this we presumed to be the male. There were definitely two of the birds in the area. Later we released the female near where she had been caught. She sat on the ground for about three minutes, part of the time with the wings spread out as a bird may do if feigning injury, then flew off in good condition. Afterwards the woods nearby were searched but no eggs were found. Each time we heard the "chuck" it was evening, either shortly before or just after dark. We did not have occasion to stay at the camp overnight in 1969 but we did so one time in 1970 and the "chuck" vocalized during the night as we understand from the literature he does. Caretakers at the camp told us that they had heard the call in 1968 but assumed that it was made by a Whip-poor-will, a bird rather common to the area. So many people seem to think that anything that calls in the night is either a Whip-poor-will or an owl!

On Monday, July 7, 1969, Bill Espy informed us that Rev. Asa Popp, resident custodial minister of the Forest Lake Baptist Camp, had told him of a strange Whip-poor-will-like bird which frequented the woods near his home. This camp is located about 3 miles southwest of Camp Arrowhead and about 4 miles southeast of Ottumwa in an oak-hickory woods. To check this we went to this camp on July 8, together with Bud and Blossom Hallberg. At about 8:30 P.M. we heard the call of a "chuck". We played our tape recording of the song of the Camp Arrowhead "chuck" and soon had the Forest Lake Baptist Camp "chuck" flying overhead in the waning daylight. This bird was a male, complete with white on the inner part of the three outer tail feathers and snapped his bill as he flew, the sound being quite audible. Just prior to the sighting we heard the froglike croak which the "chuck" frequently utters and which we had heard at the Y camp. However, we more frequently heard this strange sound preceding the regular call in which the "chuck" pronounced its own name, the froglike note usually being uttered two or three times though on one occasion it was repeated fifty-three times.

At least once a week for the remainder of the summer we visited the Baptist

camp and each time in the area in front of Rev. Popp's residence we were able to call in the "chuck", the playing of the taped recording never failing to bring a response. On several occasions two "chucks" were seen flying together, one apparently a male and the other a female. Once one cross-perched on a tree limb at a height of nearly twenty feet while the other flew overhead. Several times in the dark we were able to see one of these birds perching on a telephone pole, its eyes reflecting red in the beam of our flashlight. Another time two of the birds flew closer to us in the twilight and one perched on the telephone wire crosswise while the other hovered in mid-air as though intending to alight but did not do so.

On September 3, 1969, forty-seven members of the Ottumwa Bird Club attended a potluck supper meeting at the Forest Lake Baptist Camp, the principal object (along with eating) being to see the "chuck" if it would cooperate. At about 8 P.M. DST while it was still light we played the tape recording in Rev. Popp's yard. We had scarcely started it before one of the faithful "chucks" responded and flew overhead at least five times giving the group a fine view of it. This bird was a male, the white tail markings being clearly visible.

Rev. and Mrs. Popp moved to the Baptist Camp in 1965 and the "chuck" has been a summer resident each year since. The former minister at the camp was aware of the bird but did not know what it was, his wife once commenting that it sounded like a Whip-poor-will that had not learned its song very well. This would take the presence of the bird at that camp back to 1964. Rev. Popp, with his dry sense of humor, classifies the "chuck" as somewhat of a nuisance. He says he would like to have some Whip-poor-wills near their house but that the "chuck" scares them off. He also says that the "chuck's" loud call from the ridgepole of their home at 5 A.M. is somewhat disturbing. We know, however, that the "chuck" is a very welcome resident on their premises and even on their roof and that both the Poppes look forward to his (and her) return each year. They tell us that the "chuck's" last vocal effort in 1969 was heard about mid-September.

In 1970 we first heard the "chuck" at the Y camp at 7:20 P.M. CST on April 24. The camp custodians, Mr. and Mrs. Verle Dawson, reported that they too heard it that evening for the first time in 1970. On April 26, Rev. and Mrs. Popp reported this year's first vocal offering by the "chuck" at the Forest Lake Baptist Camp.

Several efforts were made to determine the general 'home ground area' of the Camp Arrowhead "chuck" on April 24 and 26, and May 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10 in 1970. On May 9, a netting lane was cleared in a relatively open area within the second-growth oak-hickory at a spot from which two "chucks" had been flushed the previous evening. The forest floor from which they flew was dotted with droppings and we felt that perhaps this was a favorite roosting place. However, subsequent netting efforts here accomplished nothing.

Eleven days elapsed before we were again able to band at Camp Arrowhead. Darleen was to instruct in bird study at a sixth grade camp there so we took our netting equipment out on Thursday evening, May 21. We planned to place a net in the "chuck area" first, hoping that we might net the bird while putting the rest of our nets in their regular locations. As we moved through the woods and had nearly reached the end of the netting lane, a female "chuck" flushed from the ground and gave every indication of being very agitated. She hissed, drooped her wings and very slyly tried to lure us away. We immediately began to search the area nearby. About two feet from a faint path we had previously used, Darleen discovered the two eggs of the Chuck-will's-widow, described by Major Bendire as being "among the handsomest found in the United States". Their semi-glossy base color was a



TOP - female with eggs

MIDDLE - male with eggs

BOTTOM LEFT - NEST AND EGGS OF THE CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW, MAY 9, 1970

BOTTOM RIGHT - TWO YOUNG CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOWS HATCHED JUNE 10-11, 1970

All Photos by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ayres.

pale creamy-white, marbled with subdued grayish-lavender and overlaid with small tan to brownish irregular-shaped spots. The entire effect of the color on the egg was muted and pastel in tone. Had it not been for the near white of the base color the eggs would have blended more successfully with the leaves on which they were laid.

No nest had been made, the eggs merely having been laid on last year's oak leaves. It appeared that the female had merely settled down on the spot, compressing the leaves but not moving them about. This area was relatively level and comparatively free of undergrowth, but sloped abruptly into a tree studded gully about fifty feet away.

Here let us digress for a moment to relate a brief note which we think of interest. On May 24, an article appeared in the Des Moines Sunday Register stating that at the annual meeting of the Iowa Ornithologists Union held at Mt. Pleasant on May 17, Charles reported that a Chuck-will's-widow, a bird normally native to the southern United States, had been sighted nesting in Iowa for the first time, the location being near Ottumwa. What Charles had actually said was that we had located the chuck and *hoped* to find the nest. However, with the help of the Almighty, the cooperation of a pair of Chuck-will's-widows, and some careful observations and searching and a lot of luck, we did locate the nest on May 21, just three days before the printed article appeared. Thus was the integrity of the press upheld.

During the incubation period the nest area was visited at least eleven times by at least one of us, together with one or more of the following members of the Ottumwa Bird Club: Cyril Lamb, Carmen Lamb, Pearle C. Walker and Dr. Glen C. Blome. Daily visits were made on the last five days and on two of these the male bird was incubating but the female was not in evidence. Many pictures were taken and much behavior noted. We found that we could walk past the incubating female or male without any sign of disturbance being shown. It was a wonderful illustration of the confidence the birds have in their protective coloring. As a matter of fact, though we knew just where the nest was, we found that when we took members of the club to see our find it was often necessary to reflect sunlight onto the incubating bird by the use of a mirror, in order to enable them to locate the bird. Early in the incubating period the female would flush from the eggs when a hand was extended to within from six to twelve inches of her head but she would first rear up and hiss, the sound strongly resembling that made by a snake. On one occasion she rocked from side to side a number of times as she sat on the eggs, hissing in what she no doubt felt was a most menacing manner. Further movement in her direction, however, caused the female to fly, but she always remained within about fifty feet of the nest site. Once during the incubation period, as we put up the nets, Charles commented that the "chuck" was probably watching us and laughing at our efforts to catch him. When the nets were up, as we started into the woods to see how the incubating bird was getting along, we heard several low, guttural, froglike notes and then the loud 'chuck-will's-widow' call repeated a number of times. It was immediately answered by the same call words shorter, softer and somewhat differently pitched, and when we got to the nesting place the female was not to be seen. Remembering what Charles had said we could not help but wonder if the "chuck" *had* been watching and laughing (if birds laugh) and if he did warn his lady. What do you think? Both of them have certainly avoided our nets so far this year!

As incubation progressed both male and female became increasingly protective and stayed nearer the eggs, even venturing to fly at us as we took pictures. At no



time did we touch the eggs as it is reported that if this is done the birds will move them to a new location by the simple process of carrying them in the huge mouth. The Chuck-will's-widow's former generic name, *Antrostomus*, was very appropriate --- it meant cavemouth.

On June 7, we found the male on the eggs and Carmen Lamb moved a stick close to the bird's head, gently prodding it under the chin while Darleen took pictures. The bird hissed as the stick came near but did not move from its position immediately. However, the prodding finally induced him to move off to a position about six inches from the eggs where he remained for a few minutes while more pictures were taken. One June 10, the female reacted in a similar manner, being much more protective than she had been on previous occasions.

We observed certain other actions of the adults which we suspect are typical, including the feigning of injury, a broken wing act most frequently performed on the ground and almost invariably accompanied by the hissing. Much hissing was also noted when the adults were off the ground. Flight into the nearby trees seemed to indicate that the position assumed on landing was influenced by the type of landing place, the perch being crosswise on the smaller branches and lengthwise on the larger limbs. At no time during our observations were both adults seen together at the nesting site.

We left the nest at 1:30 P.M., on June 10, the eggs still unhatched. The next day Darleen returned with Mr. Lamb and Dr. Blome at about 5:30 P.M., and more pictures were taken. At that time the female was on the nest. Her feathers seemed to be fluffed out a bit more than usual and she moved from her position with great reluctance and for two very good reasons. She was covering two little reddish-gold balls of fluff that were each about two inches in diameter. Here were the first baby Chuck-will's-widows ever found in the State of Iowa. Frankly, the youngsters showed no excitement whatsoever over the fact that they were making ornithological history, which, we must admit, was more than we could say. The babies' eyes remained closed during our entire visit and so did their mouths, though the ample size of each mouth was indicated by the mouth line which extended from one side of the head to the other, ending under the closed eyes. While the mother bird was greatly agitated and flew both around and at us, the new arrivals neither moved nor made any sound. Twenty-two days had elapsed since we had found the eggs. As the female left the nest Darleen noted that two pieces of eggshell were stuck to her abdominal feathers. These pieces dropped off when she flew but were recovered and proved to be the matched halves of one of the eggs. It is believed that the female had not been off the nest since the hatching of the second egg. No other shells were found indicating that the shell of the first egg had been removed from the area. Subsequently the two pieces of eggshell were glued together making a surprisingly accurate replica of the entire egg before hatching except that the breaks are visible.

The nest site was visited the next day but it was raining and we did not want to disturb the female who was protecting the young with her body as she had been doing the day before. When we returned the next day, June 12, however, both the adults and the young were gone. Careful search revealed no evidence of predation so we feel that the young were transferred by the adults to another part of the woods. Subsequent search of the area was to no avail. On the evening of June 13, the woods were combed for two hours without success. The male "chuck" started singing at 8:50 P.M. DST, and was followed from the spot where the singing began to the original nesting site where he was plainly seen. At this time our tape recording was used to try to cause the bird to respond and this was quite successful



but he appeared to be agitated. The female was not seen at this time and the young birds could not be found nor have they been located since.

We have read that the first female and two eggs of the "chuck" found in Ohio were collected and placed in a museum. We would like to have banded our "chucks" and feel sure that we could have caught them when on the nest but we did not want to chance injury to either the birds, the eggs or the young and so made no attempt along this line, nor did we interfere to any extent with their nesting. We would rather see these 'first' birds raise their families, go south and then return to us, depending on our pictures and tape recordings to substantiate the fact that they have nested in our state, than to see them perpetuated as mounted specimens in a museum.

We, as well as Rev. and Mrs. Popp and all the members of the Ottumwa Bird Club who are mentioned herein and who helped in this study look forward to next spring with great anticipation and the hope that once more we will hear what may appropriately be called 'the wandering voice in the night' announce his return from the south by calling his name, 'chuck-will's-widow, chuck-will's-widow'.

## Mourning Dove and Blackbird Production in a Missouri Pine Planting

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During the summers of 1967 and 1968 a pine planting located in northeast Missouri just south of Kirksville was examined to determine nest production of the Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*), Common Grackle (*Quiscalus versicolor*), and Red-winged Blackbird (*Angelais phoeniceus*). The study plot consisted of approximately two acres of Scotch, Virginia, and jack pines planted in strips about 30 feet wide. The Virginia pines averaged between 18 and 20 feet tall, and the jack and Scotch pines averaged about 12-14 feet. The study area was bordered on two sides by cultivated hay crops and on the other two sides by plantings of maple and elm.

### METHODS

After May 1 of each year a search was conducted for nests every five days. Trails were established and nests were found by slowly walking beneath the trees. Each nest was numbered and subsequent observations were kept in a notebook. Species identification and further observations were made by using a bamboo pole equipped with an automobile mirror on the end. Observations were recorded from the start of nest-building until the fledglings left the nest.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Mourning Dove:

In 1967 the first Mourning Dove nest was started on May 6 and the last nests' fledglings left on September 4. In 1968 the first nest was started on May 1 and the last nest was destroyed on September 13 by a feral housecat. Seventeen pairs of doves were observed making 31 nests in 1967. Of these 31 nests 10 were used 2 times, 3 were used 3 times, and 2 were used 4 times. In 1968 twenty-three pairs of doves were observed making a total of 44 nests of which 16 were used 2 times, 4 were used 3 times, 3 were used 4 times, and 1 was used 5 times.

In 1967 a total of 59 eggs were produced of which 16 were lost or did not hatch. Of the remaining 43 eggs that hatched 30 young were reared. In 1968 a total of 81 eggs were observed of which 12 were destroyed and of the remaining 69 eggs 54 young survived to leave the nest.

#### Common Grackle:

The first Common Grackle nest was started on May 16 in 1967 and on May 12 in 1968. Nesting was complete sometime during or before mid-July in both years. Even though several nests were destroyed each year only one attempt at re-nesting occurred during 1967 and twice during 1968. In all three cases the attempts failed.

During 1967 a total of 38 nests were built and 161 eggs were laid. 61 eggs were destroyed and of the 100 eggs that hatched 51 young survived. In 1968 thirty-three nests were built and a total of 121 eggs laid of which 46 were destroyed before hatching. Of the remaining 75 eggs 41 young survived and left the area.

#### Red-winged Blackbird:

Incomplete data exists for the starting dates of nesting for this species, but it is known that during 1967 six nests were built with 27 eggs produced. Of these 20 hatched and 13 young survived. In 1968 seven nests were built and 28 eggs produced with 16 eggs hatching. Of the 16 progeny only 8 survived.

TABLE 1. -- Summary of nest production for the Mourning Dove, Common Grackle and Red-winged Blackbird during 1967 and 1968

		Nests Compl.	Eggs Prod.	Eggs Hatched	Young Prod.	Percent Success	Young per Ad Pair
Mourning Dove	1967	31	59	43	30	50.8	1.76
	1968	44	81	69	54	66.7	2.35
Common Grackle	1967	38	161	100	51	31.6	1.38
	1968	33	121	75	41	33.9	1.32
Red-winged Blkb.	1967	6	27	20	13	48.1	2.16
	1968	7	28	16	8	27.7	1.14

In 1967 the Mourning Doves reared an average of 1.76 young per adult pair and 2.35 in 1968. These values are only about half the values of those reported by Schroeder (1970) for Kansas and Randall (1955) for North Dakota. The young per adult breeding pair ratio for the Common Grackle and Red-winged Blackbird may be found in the accompanying table. Again these factors are low with no apparent cause.

Several factors were responsible for the nest losses examined. Predation and weather factors were frequently encountered, but little is definitely known about these conditions in this study. Heavy rains occurred both years during the nesting season; however, more occurred at critical periods during 1967. This may explain the better nesting success during 1968. During 1967 seventeen young and 31 eggs of all species were destroyed and attributed to heavy rains. Nine young and 14 eggs were attributed to rain loss during 1968 most of which occurred during one night when 7 young and 13 eggs were destroyed.

A pair of Great Horned Owls were residents in the area during both years, but it is doubtful they preyed on the nesting birds to any great extent (Crawford, 1968). The study area was located near a farm house and was quite accessible to many domestic cats. Only 3 instances of predation by a housecat were confirmed, but many losses accrued for both years of which at least part was probably caused by housecats. Blue Jays were also resident in the area and were witnessed several times pecking holes in eggs while still in the nest.

For such a small area the nest density for the three species under consideration plus nests of other birds was high (an average of over 40 nests per acre). This density would undoubtedly produce stress and could possibly reduce egg-laying potential. Some factor was apparently responsible for the low egg production of the doves. It is suggested that a combination of all or several of the above factors can be attributed to the reduction of eggs and young for all three species.

In summary the study area had a very high density of nests per acre, but production of young per adult breeding pair was low. The causes for this low breeding success can only be speculated. Several causal relations are now being studied in an effort to obtain more data.

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## Mississippi Memories

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As a youth there was always a spell of magic when I stood on the Iowa bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River valley: the long river flowing in channels around green islands, the boats like small toys, the far Wisconsin shores. There was a dream-like quality to the scene, so unreal that at times I became lost in another world. I could imagine a red man a hundred years or more ago - the growing sounds of breaking day about him; an Indigo Hunting trembling with song on a high branch; a Red-eyed Vireo calling unceasingly in the woods beyond; the sound of voices as the Indian's village awakened. I could imagine the brace hurrying onward over the cliff trail into the cool, misty canyon below to the river's edge, slipping a sleek bark canoe into the water, and paddling out into the channel to disappear into the shrouds of morning mist.

This region is still one of wilderness with wooded ravines, rocky hillsides, river sloughs. On the Iowa side there are cliffs of sandstone, the St. Peter formation, stained with reds, yellows, and browns of iron oxide, long noted in this region by the name of Pictured Rocks. Hardwoods of oak and maple cover the bluffs, and, growing amidst them, a few solitary conifers, grubby in growth, but standing green in midwinter, perhaps attracting a handful of kinglets drifting before the first snows of autumn, or serving to shelter and feed a crossbill. Wild geraniums tinge the slopes with purple, and on rocky trails there are bluebells in bloom. The dark and moist woods are lush with maidenhair ferns, and here can be heard the bell-like notes of Wood Thrushes. In contrast, along the river embankments in the open, hot in the summer sun, Indigo Buntings call continuously.

River sloughs are often choked with great beds of lotus flowers, and buttonbush and river birch form backgrounds for flaming cardinal flowers. Here are found big waders of the bird world: Great Blue Herons, and Common Egrets.



Over the years the red man's world here changed with the coming of the French explorer, Louis Joliet, and the Jesuit missionary, Jacques Marquette; the eventual arrival of Chevalier de LaSalle, Captain Jonathan Carver, Julian Dubuque, Father Louis Hennepin, the Giards -- Ange, Antaya and Basil. McGregor's Landing developed, and ferries began to ply the wide Mississippi channel. The old Fox Indian village, on the Wisconsin side, gave slowly away to white man's houses and the fur company's imposing long stone warehouses. Other new communities developed on the Iowa uplands: National, Swede Ridge, Moody Ridge, and Orr's Ridge.

Despite these changes, the development of these and other communities, there still is an elemental aspect to the whole land. One has but to stroll in various places on these high bluffs to sense this wildness. Take a late afternoon in August: the sun is a great red ball suspended behind a thin veil of cumulus clouds as we walk quickly along in anticipation of viewing the great river valley as it becomes enveloped in darkness. Far off in the uplands a Killdeer cries; from up the valley a breeze carries the first notes of a Great Horned Owl; overhead, nighthawks wheel; and a bluebird sends forth a melancholy warble bringing with it a feeling of premature autumn. We catch a glimpse of this fairy as it floats along -- blue against the blue of the evening sky. In a few more weeks hundreds of his clan will be trooping southward, tumbling through these groves of flaming oaks and maples. A Field Sparrow calls nearby. From the borderland of tangled wild blackberries, now heavily loaded with dead-ripe fruit, a Wood Pewee cries plaintively, in protest, it seems, to the swiftly oncoming night.

Turning from these varied moving sights and sounds, our attention is fixed upon the great valley stretching far below us. Long banners of silvery mist begin to shroud the water, making the swiftly moving Wisconsin River, as it flows into the Mississippi, barely discernable in the near darkness. Here and there, across the valley in Wisconsin, we can see a light, and then another. Above, the constellations are becoming more pronounced as the sky darkens, and soon they will be brilliant. The air is chilled now and promises to be colder toward morning, so that tomorrow the valley will be as impressive as it is this evening when it will be filled with great rolls of white mist. As we leave the valley sights and hike back to the road, one last sound leaves us to the darkness -- the notes of the Vesper Sparrow, an appropriate song for this moment.

## CONVENTION



On Saturday afternoon, September 12, 1970, members of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union met at Springbrook State Park near Guthrie Center, Iowa, for their annual fall gathering. Early arrivals spent the afternoon birding and enjoying the fine exhibit of bird photographs by Jim Rod which were on display. After a delicious evening meal, President Beryl Layton welcomed the group, then turned the meeting over to John Faaborg and Jim Rod, both students at Iowa State University at Ames, who presented the program -- a test of our ability to identify birds by sight and sound. Each person was given a sheet of paper with lines numbered to 75. With the aid of slides and recorded bird songs and calls we were taken on a full day's field trip, narrated by John and Jim. As a bird was either seen on the screen or heard from the recording, we were to write the name of the bird on the proper line. Each person was allowed to correct his own paper and conceal the results! Most found room for improvement. It was a delightful and worthwhile experience.

Sunday morning was cloudy, misty, rainy, disappointing weather, but after a substantial breakfast we donned raincoats, headgear and boots and went on field trips, coming back to the dining room mid-morning for hot coffee and rolls. As usual, Pete Petersen had nets up and was banding birds during the two days assisted by John Faaborg and Jim Rod. He brought a number of the birds to the lodge area for all to see.

Following a chicken dinner at noon, President Beryl Layton presided at a brief business meeting. He announced that the spring convention will be held in Cedar Rapids on May 14-16, 1971, the Cedar Rapids Bird Club to be in charge of physical arrangements and Vice President John Faaborg to be in charge of the program.

President Layton expressed thanks for the group to John Faaborg and Jim Rod for the unique program Saturday night; to Jim Rod for his display of black and white prints; to Wayne Partridge for his work in preparing accommodations for meetings and lodging; to Bernice Partridge, Margaret Jones and their kitchen help, Florence Chaloupka, Susan Chaloupka, Connie Eastman and Liz Funk, for the delicious meals.

Pete Petersen announced that next fall the Illinois group will meet at Savanna, Illinois, and suggested that the Iowa Ornithologists' Union might like to consolidate our fall meeting with theirs. Most of our members favored the suggestion, and Pete will take the matter up with the Illinois group. (This has been approved and the meeting will be Sept. 18 & 19, 1971.)

Previous to leading the compilation of birds seen on field trips, Judge Charles C. Ayres, Jr. suggested that we urge more people to attend the fall meetings, that we offer suggestions for programs, send articles to Pete for use in *Iowa Bird Life*, and that we try to get more young people in the organization. - Pearle C. Walker, Secretary, Ottumwa.

Birds identified Sunday, September 13, 1970:

Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Green-wing

Teal, Blue-winged Teal, American Widgeon, Shoveler, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Ring-necked Pheasant, Sora, American Coot, Killdeer, Black-bellied Plover, Common Snipe, Spotted Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo, Great Horned Owl, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Veery, Eastern Bluebird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Solitary Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Parula Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Yellowthroat, Canada Warbler, House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Total species: 91

Additional species Saturday, September 12, 1970:

Green Heron, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Ring-billed Gull, Caspian Tern, Barred Owl, Winter Wren, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Yellow-throated Vireo, Indigo Bunting, Swamp Sparrow.

Total Species: 11

Grand Total Species: 102

#### REGISTRATION:

AMES: John Faaborg, Judy Faaborg, James P. Rod.

BOONE: Jerry Wetteland, Georgeann Wetteland

BURLINGTON: Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. Jack M. McLane, Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Niemann.

CEDAR FALLS: Berneda Collins, Mrs. Charles Schwanke, Maxine Schwanke.

CEDAR RAPIDS: Mr. and Mrs. Beryl Layton, John Layton, Lucile Lijedehl, Sara L. Millekin, Lillian Serbousek, Myra Willis.

DAVENPORT: Mr. and Mrs. Peter C. Petersen, Jr.

DES MOINES: Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Atherton, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph K. Brown, Paul Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Woodward H. Brown.

DUBUQUE: Frieda Crossley, George Crossley, Ival Schuster, Phyllis Shultz.

ESSEX: Betty Walters

FORT DODGE: Susan Macek

GUTHRIE CENTER: Wayne Partridge

HAMBERG: Mr. and Mrs. Fitzhugh Diggs.

INDIANOLA: Paul Kline

IOWA CITY: Mr. and Mrs. Everett D. Alton, Margrieta Delle.

LAMONI: Ralph and Fernande Silver.

MARSHALLTOWN: Dorothy A. Brunner, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Glasgow, Mrs. Roy Grimes, Mr. and Mrs. Russell J. Prescott, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Savage.

MOORLAND: Frank and Pauline Lewman

OSKALOOSA: Mr. and Mrs. Keith Layton

OTTUMWA: Judge and Mrs. Charles C. Ayres, Jr., Leona L. Havens, Pearl C. Walker.

PAULLINA: Paul Smith

SHENANDOAH: Mrs. Emmet Zollars.

WATERLOO: Dr. Myle Burk, Antoinette Camarata, Mabelle Hinkley, Ruth Halliday.

WHEATLAND: C. Esther Copp, Tom and Landa Rowold.

WOODWARD: Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Guthrie.

DOVER, ARKANSAS: Mrs. Myrle Jones

EAST MOLINE, ILLINOIS: Jacob and Ruth Frink

MOLINE, ILLINOIS: David Rader

PORT BYRON, ILLINOIS: Ralph Money

ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS: Marcella Campbell, Warren and Ione Wickerstom.

Total: 80

## FIELD REPORTS

The warm, dry summer ended rather abruptly early in September with the onset of cold, rainy weather, the Des Moines Airport recording 6 inches of rain in 25 days. As frequently happens, the reports of abundance or scarcity from the fewer-than-usual number of reporters are conflicting and the waves of migrants seemed quite localized.

**Grebes.** Pied-billed appear to have had a good summer with 60, mostly juveniles, at Cardinal Marsh on 2 August (DK). They nested in all areas (DH), and appeared in good numbers in various areas in the latter half of August (JR).

**Heron.** Nestings of 30 Great Blues in Red Rock Refuge were unsuccessful, and ended with the adults deserting the nests and leaving the refuge. About 30 were seen the first of September, but few since (GB). They were thought common (DK), but very scarce elsewhere (DH, JR, WHB). Green Herons also were common (DK), but few were seen in Polk Co. until late August. A Cattle Egret was watched near Des Moines on 6 June (MEW, DM, WHB). Several Common Egrets stayed in the Refuge until June, but there was no evidence of nesting (GB). On 26 August 5 were seen at West Twin Lake (DM). A Snowy Egret was observed on 26 July at Fisher's Lake (MEP). Yellow-crowned Night Herons also were seen at Fisher's Lake, 2 on 19 July (MEP) and one immature on 20 and 22 September (MEW, JKB, DB, WHB).

**Geese, Ducks.** A Snow Goose was seen repeatedly at Anderson Lake near Jewell from the end of May to 26 July. On 4 July it had an apparent mate, but there was no evidence of nesting (RM). Mallards had a good season (JR) while 50 stayed at the refuge through June although no nesting was indicated (GB). Blue-winged Teal also had a good season (JR), and flocks of about a dozen were seen the first half of September (DG). Wood Ducks were thought down (JR), but several broods were seen at Fisher's Lake in Polk Co. A very late Canvasback was at Goose Lake on 5 July (JF). A flock of 25 Red-breasted Mergansers was watched on 30 July



(DH).

**Hawks.** The consensus is that raptors, other than Turkey Vultures, have been scarce. Red-shouldered Hawks (number not given) were seen on 8 September at Harper's Ferry (DK). A summer roost at Red Rock had 68 Turkey Vultures, evidently non-breeders (GB), and 11 were seen on 22 June (DG). A pair of Red-tailed Hawks in the Refuge had 2 young (GB). Several Marsh Hawks have been seen daily since 15 August (DG). There are two reports of Ospreys: 1 on 16 September (PP), and 2 on 15 September (Ruth Halliday, fide RH). Comments on Sparrow Hawks ranged from virtually absent (JR) to uncommon early, but abundant in late summer (DK). Other reports: only an occasional one (DH), only one pair known to nest and produce one young (GB), and down (PP). The overlook at Saylorville Dam in Polk Co. affords a good view of the migration down the Des Moines River Valley. On 22 September there were recorded 1 Turkey Vulture, 5 accipiters, 13 Marsh Hawks, 1 Broadwing, 6 Red-tailed, 1 Sharp-shinned, 1 Sparrow Hawk, plus several buteos (JKB, DB).

**Bobwhites, Pheasants.** All reports mentioned a good nesting season with numbers being up.

**Shorebirds.** This year's reports emphasize the effect of habitat upon shorebird populations. There were about 3,000 mixed shorebirds at Dunbar Slough on 19 July. The numbers dwindled to several hundred in late August, and by mid-September the slough was dry (JF). A similar comment referred to good numbers in mid-August with a lack of mud flats later (JR), and in the Iowa City area there was no suitable area this year (FK). There was a very poor movement at Sioux City up to 11 September (DH). There were several good movements near Des Moines in mid and late August. There were three observations of the King Rail in late June and July (GDeL, RZ), and on 19 July an adult and 3 young were seen at Goose Lake (JF). A Common Gallinule was present on 16 August (HP). Killdeer were very few (GB). A Golden Plover was seen on 29 August, and a Ruddy Turnstone on 5 September (HP). Woodcock apparently nested near Castalia (DK). The only Upland Plover reports are 2 adults and 1 young in July and 1 young on 30 August (GB). An unusual fall record is the sighting of a Willet on 16 August (HP). The rare Buff-breasted Sandpiper was sighted twice, 9 on 29 August, and 1 on 5 September (HP).

**Gulls, Terns.** Only a few Franklin's Gulls were seen (DH). A Common Tern was at Fisher's Lake on 22 September (WHB, JKB, DB). Two Caspian Terns were seen at Red Rock on 24 June (GB) and 4 at Spring Lake during the Fall Meeting (MB, PDK).

**Doves, Cuckoos.** Doves seemed very numerous in August (GB, WHB), and were though up 50 percent over last two years (PP). Cuckoo reports varied: few Yellow-billed and no Black-billed (GB), both rarely seen (DH, WHB), heard more often than usual and thought Yellow-billed (PK), both seen frequently (DG), and Black-billed may be up (JR).

**Owls, Nighthawks, Hummingbirds.** A Barn Owl has been roosting daily since 1 September in the barn (DG). A young of one pair of Screech Owls was killed by a car, and a second pair nested with no young seen (GB). Large flights of Nighthawks were observed on 4 September (DH, PP), with another flight of 200 about the same date (GB). Hummingbirds continue very scarce with only one pair seen (GB), only 2 all summer (WHB), 2 early in September (DH), and the first of the summer on 5 September (RH).

**Woodpeckers.** A good population of Yellow-shafted Flickers (GB). On 21 August a Pileated was seen at 13th and Main in Davenport (PP). Red-bellied have

been fewer than usual (WHB). Red-headed have been very common (DK) and the highest in several years (JR). A sapsucker was seen on 19 July in Yellow River Forest (DK).

**Flycatchers.** Eastern Kingbirds have been very numerous (GB, WHB). A number of Western Kingbirds have been known to nest in western Iowa (DH) and also were seen in Mills and Pottowatamie Cos. on 29 May (PDK). An Acadian Flycatcher summered in the Yellow River Forest (DK).

**Swallows.** No colonies of Bank Swallows were located (JR). Barn Swallows were thought fewer than five years ago (GB). A new colony of Cliff Swallows nested under a bridge at Iowa City (FK). There were 32 nests on a cliff in Red Rock Refuge and more than 30 active among the old nests on the dam (GB). There was a good population and several hundred were banded (JR). Purple Martins gathered in a flock which built up to 6,000 by 8 September. By the 14th, 90 percent had left, but the flock again built up to 4,000 (DH). A flock of 5,000 was noted in Des Moines in early August (OG). They were not numerous (GB).

**Chickadees, Wrens.** Chickadees have been almost non-existent (PK). House Wrens were fewer than five years ago but a pair of Bewick's which built in a bird feeder were chased out by them (GB). A Carolina was seen at Marble Rock on 18 August (PK), and one appeared on 26 July and remained (FK).

**Mimics, Thrushes.** There were 21 young banded and 3 not banded from 8 nests of the Mockingbird (GB). One was seen near Scranton on 19 July (JF). Catbirds and Thrashers were seldom seen (DH). Robins have been in good numbers (DH, PK, WHB). The Wood Thrush has been absent in several areas (JR). Bluebirds are down (GB), but 55 nestlings were banded (PP). Very few of the *hylocichla* genus have been seen in Polk Co.

**Vireos, Warblers.** Bell's Vireos were found in only two locations (GB). Red-eyed were thought lower (PP), and continue scarce (WHB), but a wave was noticed on 8 September (JR). A good wave at the end of August (RZ, PP, JR). Smaller waves seemed very localized (JR). Several good waves were noted in the latter part of September (JB). A Golden-winged was among those killed at the TV tower in Des Moines (JKB). Blue-winged were thought common (DK), but fewer at Ledges State Park (JF). An early Nashville was at Okoboji on 24 August (DH). The Yellow Warbler, formerly very abundant in many areas is again almost non-existent (DK, DH, WHB). The rare Black-throated Blue was found at Springbrook by Chas. Ayres. Ceruleans were down (DK, and also at Ledges (HF). The Yellow-throated Warbler was seen at the Ledges as late as 30 June (JF). The Yellow-throat continues abundant (DK) and increasing (PP). A Kentucky Warbler summered in Yellow River State Forest (DK). Redstarts were abundant (DK), but missing again in Des Moines.

**Blackbirds, Tanagers.** Bobolinks were up (PP, WHB). A flock of 24 was seen but only 1 pair remained, and no nest was found (GB). Two territorial males were observed but no nest was found (DG). Eastern Meadowlarks were up (PP). On 15 July there were two separate observations of 2 Yellow-headed Blackbirds where there had been no previous nesting (DG). Orchard Orioles seemed few (DH), and none reported (WHB). They evidently nested at Iowa City (FK). Baltimore Orioles were few (DH), but in good numbers at Des Moines. A flock of 100 Cowbirds on 15 July was unusual (FK). Summer Tanagers have been seen regularly at feeders in recent years, but this year only a female appeared early in the summer and then not until late September (CG).

**Finches.** Rose-breasted Grosbeaks came to the feeder as late as 6 September (FK). They were in good numbers (GB, WHB). A female Black-headed Grosbeak

was observed in Robertson Sanctuary on 20 September (RE, CH, RH). (See longer note). This appears to be only the second Iowa record for the species (WHB). Indigo Buntings were down (GB). Goldfinches appear up (JR). Red Crossbills were seen at Ames until 7 June (JF). Towhees were abundant (DK), but down (JR), and again few, if any, at Des Moines. On 8 June 5 Lark Buntings were seen in a space of 50 yards near Strahan, Mills Co. (PDK). The Savannah Sparrow is an uncommon breeding bird, but a female with an incubation patch was found in August near Ames (JR). Grasshopper Sparrows were way down (DK) but thought abundant (RZ, JR). An early LeConte's Sparrow was seen on 5 September (R. Halliday fide RH). Song Sparrows are up 35 percent over the last three years (PP).

Contributors: Mrs. Gladys Black, Pleasantville; Mrs. Dorothy Brown, Joe K. Brown, Mrs. Mary Brown, Woodward H. Brown, Des Moines; Mrs. G. DeLong, Shenandoah; Mrs. Roland Ehlers, Maquoketa; John Faaborg, Ames; Donald Gillaspey, Lamoni; Oliver Graves, Mrs. Catherine Griffith, Des Moines; Mrs. Ruth Halliday, Waterloo; Mrs. D. M. Hanna, Sioux City; Russell Hays, Waterloo; Mrs. Clarice Hewitt, Jesup; Fred Kent, Iowa City; Darwin Koenig, Castalia; Dick Mooney, Des Moines; Ron Muilenburg, Webster City; Mrs. Helen Peasley, Mary Elizabeth Peck, Des Moines; Peter Petersen, Davenport; Jim Rod, Ames; Mary Ellen Wartens, Des Moines; Mrs. Ruth Zollars, Shenandoah. Woodward H. Brown, 4815 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines, Iowa, 50312.

The December issue of I.B.L. will consist of only the 5-year Index, and the printing of the notes on the fall migration will be in the March, 1971 issue.

Rather than wait until the deadline for the March issue, please send in your notes by 1 December while the facts are fresh in your mind. Your notes on the winter season can then be sent in at a later date.

## Christmas Counts

Dates for the 1970 Christmas Counts in Iowa are Dec. 19 - Jan. 3, 1971. All previous compilers will receive a list of rules and a form. Anyone wanting to start a new count contact John Faaborg, 777 Pammel Ct. I.S.U., Ames 50010.

### GENERAL NOTES



**Black-headed Grosbeak at Waterloo.** On 20 September, 1970, at Robertson Sanctuary, Mrs. Clarice Hewitt, Mrs. Roland Ehlers and I saw a grosbeak fly up into a dead tree in good light. We knew we had something different right away as we quickly decided it was not a female or juvenile Rose-breasted Grosbeak. The orange-yellow coloration and heavy grosbeak bill checked out in the field guide as a female Black-headed Grosbeak. We all got good views of the bird sitting, and when it flew we had excellent views of the orange-yellow coloration along the breast. Mrs. Hewitt has seen the Black-headed Grosbeak out west, and we were absolutely certain of the identification. -- RUSSELL HAYS, 533 Home Park, Waterloo.

## Membership Roll \*

- Allert, Oscar P., RFD 1, McGregor, 52107, 1919
- Alton, Everett D., 909 Melrose Ave., Iowa City, 52240, 1969
- Alton, Mrs. Florence, Box 405, Oelwein, 50662, 1960
- Anderson, Mrs. Alice, 806 S. Jefferson, Mt. Pleasant, 52641, (C) 1970
- Atherton, Mrs. Stanley, 1531 11th St., Des Moines, 50314, 1956
- Atwell, Susan H., Rte. 3, Ft. Dodge, 50501, 1965
- Augustine, Mrs. Frank, 808 N. Spruce, Creston, 50801, 1967
- Ayres, Mr. and Mrs. Charles C., Jr., 922 N. Green, Ottumwa, 52501 (S&S) 1941, 1955
- Ballantyne, Mrs. Dean, R.R. 2, Box 84, Lamoni, 50140, 1959
- Barnes, Brigit, 102 Bel Aire Rd., Ankeny, 50021, (J) 1970
- Barrett, Mrs. Helen G., 2105 S. Cecelia St., Sioux City, 51106, 1948
- Bartlett, Wesley H., 122 S. Ridgley, Algona, 50511, 1935
- Bassarear, Pauline, 809 W. 4th St., Apt. 2, Waterloo, 50701, 1962
- Bell, Harlan L., Box 541, Vinton, 52349, 1962
- Benson, Robert, 2526 Middle Rd., Davenport, 52803 (S) 1971
- Binsfield, Mrs. Ruth, 1712 48th St., 50310, 1941
- Black, Mrs. Gladys, 608 DeWitt St., Pleasantville, 50225, 1957
- Blevins, Lewis D., 2003 E. 12th St., Davenport, 52803, 1959
- Boller, Wm. A., 1524 Milton Ave., 50316, 1965
- Bordner, Mrs. Robt. I., Sr., 209 W. Thomas, Shenandoah, 51601, 1929
- Bordner, Mrs. Robt. I., Jr., 214 W. State St., Clarinda, 51632, 1954
- Bottleman, Mrs. John, RFD3, Northwood, 50459, (S) 1954
- Bowles, John, 409 Prairie St., Pella, 50219, 1963
- Boyd, Mrs. Ivan L., 1020 7th St., Baldwin, Kan., 66006, 1958
- Braley, Mrs. F. M., 209 W. Thomas, Shenandoah, 51601, 1956
- Briggs, Shirley A., 7605 Honeywell Lane, Bethesda, Md., 20014, 1964
- Britten, Wayne, 508 N. 17th St. Place, Marshalltown, 50158, 1965
- Brooke, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight, 126 51st St., Des Moines, (S&S) 50312 1957
- Brown, Christopher Lee, 305 Hulman-Salem Rd., Terre Haute, Ind., (J) 47803 1970
- Brown, Donald J., 4124 Ovid Av., Des Moines, 50310, 1966
- Brown, Mrs. Harold B., 505 H Ave., Grundy Center, 50638, 1950
- Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph K., 3300 Lincoln Av., Des Moines, 50310, 1966
- Brown, Willard J., 3714 Kingman Bl., Des Moines, 50311, 1970
- Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Woodward H., 4815 Ingersoll Av., Des Moines, 50312 (S&S) 1947
- Brunner, Miss Dorothy A., 1603 W. Main St., Marshalltown, 50158, 1946
- Bryant, Eldon J., Rte. 1, Akron, 51001, 1965
- Buchanan, Allen K., 1½ E. State St., Algona, 50511, 1965
- Burk, Dr. Myrle M., R.2, Waterloo, 50701 (C) 1949
- Byers, Mrs. Dorothy, 645 N. Court, Ottumwa, 52501, 1970

Complete to Oct. 1, 1970. Year of joining follows the name. All cities in Iowa unless otherwise noted. The following letters are used in the list:

- |                       |              |                |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|
| (HC) Honorary Charter | (H) Honorary | (J) Junior     |
| (C) Contributing      | (L) Live     | (S) Supporting |
| (R) Regular           |              |                |

- Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis, 109 W. Gilman Terrace, Sioux City, 51104, 1969
- Campney, Rev. Arthur, 808 E. 14th St. N., Newton, 50208 (S) 1970
- Carl, Harry G., 2304 Davie St., Davenport, 52804, 1948
- Carpenter, Mrs. Madeline, 36856 Thinbark, Wayne, Mich., 48184, 1958
- Carruthers, Dr. J. W., Ackley, 50601, 1968
- Carter, Dennis L., Box 29, Arco, Ida., 83213, 1947
- Chamberlain, Mrs. Francis, Rte. 2, Box 49, Murray, 50174, 1970
- Chase, Miss Sally, 3950 6th St. S.W., Cedar Rapids, 52404, 1967
- Chase, Miss Caroline, 3950 6th St. S. W., Cedar Rapids, 52404, 1967
- Christensen, Drs. Everett and Eunice M., P.O. Drawer 1096, Thomasville, Ga., 31972, 1951, 1950
- Clifton, Mr. and Mrs. James W., 4845 Kesler Rd. N.W., Cedar Rapids, 52405, 1967
- Cogswell, Seddie Jr., R.R. 1, North Liberty, 52317, 1959
- Collins, Mrs. Lloyd, 1003 Clay St., Cedar Falls, 50613, 1967
- Coobs, Mrs. Henry H., McGregor, 52157, 1970
- Copp, Miss C. Esther, Wheatland, 52777, 1933
- Cortelyou, R. G., 5109 Underwood Ave., Omaha, Nebr., 68132, 1960
- Corwin, Miss Eleanor, 1911 Lilac Lane, Cedar Falls, 50613, 1943
- Crane, George E., 501 E. Washington, Mt. Pleasant, 52641, 1961
- Crawford, Richard D., 304 Georgian Apts., 8401 N. New Braunfels, San Antonio, Tex. 78209, 1970
- Criss, Mrs. Eugene, 208 S. 8th St., Sac City, 50583, 1965
- Crocker, M. and Mrs. Edwin G., 720 E. First St., Storm Lake, 50588, (C&L) 1967, 1960
- Crossley, Mr. and Mrs. George E., 1890 Wood St., Dubuque, 52001, 1948
- Crouter, Miss Frances, 2513 Walnut St., Cedar Falls, 50613, 1944
- Dashner, Joan, R.R. 1, Pacific Junction, 51561, (S) 1970
- Dau, Walter, 2716 McKinley Ave., Davenport, 52802, 1959
- Daubendiek, R. W., 504 Center Ave., Decorah, 52101, 1960
- Davison, Mrs. P. B., 1200 S. Paxton St., Sioux City, 51106, 1960
- Deere, Mrs. Gene L., 1412 Timberline Dr., Bettendorf, 52722, 1970
- Delle, Margrieta, 625½ Brookland Park Dr., Iowa City, 52240, 1966
- DeLong, Mrs. W. C., 1206 Johnson Dr., Shenandoah, 51601, 1939
- Dickey, Miss Margaret, 1922 1st Ave. N.E., Cedar Rapids, 52402, 1946
- Diggs, Mr. and Mrs. Fitzhugh, Rte. 1, Hamburg, 51640, 1964, 1961
- Downing, Mrs. J. A., 333 Grand Ave., Apt. 242, Des Moines, 50312, 1969
- Dragoo, Miss Lavina, Pierson, 51048, 1929
- DuMont, Philip A., 4114 Fessenden St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016 (H) 1924
- DuMont, Mrs. W. G., 1615 Hinman Ave., Evanston, Ill. 60201 (H) 1927
- Dunn, John, 17437 Rancho St., Encino, Calif., 91316 (J) 1968
- Eaton, Edward E., Box 317, Sidney, 51652, 1959
- Ehlers, Mrs. John, 305 Chestnut St., Reinbeck, 50669, 1947
- Ehlers, Mrs. Roland, R. 4, Maquoketa, 52060, 1968
- Elswick, Mrs. Paul, Lamoni, 50140, 1968
- Emlen, Clara, 1398 10th, Coralville, 52240, 1969
- Engle, Mrs. Stanley, Box 409, Glenwood, 51534, 1970
- Englehorn, A. J., 2923 Arbor, Ames, 50010, 1954
- Faaborg, John, 777 Pammel Court, Ames, 50010 1963
- Falk, Mrs. David, Box 74, St. Ansgar, 50472, (S) 1970
- Fawks, Elton, 2309 5th Ave., Moline, Ill., 61265, 1950
- Fisher, Mrs. Richard, Rt. 2, Keota, 52248, 1965

## MEMBERSHIP ROLL

77

- Fitzsimmons, C. S. Box 54, Sibley, 51249, 1945
- Flaherty, John J., 5002 N. Pine St., Davenport, 52806, 1968
- Flynn, Mrs. Norval C., 1640 Cornwall Av., Waterloo, 50702, 1966
- Ford, Arthur M., Box 173, Merville, 51039, 1959
- Formanek, Kenneth J., 1013 63rd St., Des Moines, 50311, 1964
- Frazier, Phil, 3100 37th St., Rock Island, Ill., 61201, 1970
- Frink, Jacob A., 1040 42nd Ave., E. Moline, Ill., 61244, 1965
- Fry, Cecil R., 305 N. 9th Ave., Vinton, 52349, 1956
- Frymoyer, Mrs. J. Curtis, Wilton Junction, 52778, 1968
- Fuller, Mrs. Lowell, 900 S. Garfield Av., Burlington, 52601, 1962
- Fullerton, Eleanore, 931 Old Marion Rd., Cedar Rapids, 52402, 1958
- Funk, Miss Ruth F., 800 4th Ave. S.W., Independence, 50644, 1940
- Getscher, Mrs. Edwin A., 4 Skyline Dr., Hamburg, 51640, 1959
- Gillaspey, Miss Diana, R. 1, Lamoni, 50140, (J) 1968
- Gillaspey, J. Donald, R. 1, Lamoni, 50140, 1956
- Glasgow, Clifford, 619 Forest Blvd., Marshalltown, 50158, 1970
- Goellner, Dr. Karl E., 1764 Sherbrook Dr. N. E., Cedar Rapids, 52402, 1956
- Griffith, Mr. and Mrs. E. M., 4150 Greenwood Dr., Des Moines, 50312, 1970, 1965
- Grimes, L. Orville, 313 N. 15th St., Marshalltown, 50158 (C) 1965
- Grimes, Mrs. L. R., RR 5, Marshalltown, 50158, 1960
- Groth, Mrs. G. H., RR 1, Alburnett, 52202, 1968
- Gruwell, Mrs. W. R., 700 Laurel Park Rd., Dubuque, 52001, 1952
- Guthrie, Richard A., RR 2, Woodward, 50276, (S) 1939
- Hallberg, Mrs. M. K., 4 Rock Bluff Rd., Ottumwa, 52501, 1959
- Halliday, Miss Ruth, 461 Progress, Waterloo, 50701, 1960
- Hampson, James E., RFD 3, Mendota, Ill., 61342, 1969
- Hanft, Richard, Box 116, Nichols, 52766, (C) 1965
- Hanna, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell M., 1026 S. Alice, Sioux City, 51106, 1958, 1955
- Hanson, Mrs. Leroy C., 314 McKinley Ave., Lowden, 52255, 1965
- Harrington, Irene, 1834 First Ave. N. E., Cedar Rapids, 52402, 1959
- Haskell, Mr. and Mrs. Lester W., 231 E. Creston, Des Moines, 50315, 1958, 1953
- Hatlelid, Mrs. Helen S., Box 173, Worthington, Minn., 56187, 1961
- Havens, Leona L., 513 N. Court, Ottumwa, 52501, 1964
- Hays, R. M., 533 Home Park Blvd., Waterloo, 50701, 1939
- Hayward, Mrs. Viola, 304 W. Washington, Fairfield, 52556, (L) 1954
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- Kelly, James L., 3710 Laurinda Dr., Cedar Falls, 50613, 1970
- Kennedy, Joseph C., 13717 Chef Menteur, New Orleans, La., 70129, (C) 1958
- Kent, Fred W., 302 Richards St., Iowa City, 52240, 1950
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- Kern, Jeffrey, 4331 Greenwood Dr., Des Moines, 50312, (J) 1968
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- Kirk, Paul B., P.O. Box 74, Vincennes, Ind., 47591, (S) 1968
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- Lanning, L. M., 816 W. 2nd St., Madrid, 50156, 1959
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- Leopold, Frederic, 111 Clay St., Burlington, 52601, 1963
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- Linder, Harold, Sperry, 52650, 1963  
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Morgan, Dr. Barton, 917 Ridgewood, Ames, 50010, 1968  
Morrison, James D., 748 Ridgewood Ave., Davenport, 52803, (S) 1967  
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Nicholson, Mrs. Russell, 4104 Kingman Blvd., Des Moines, 50311, (C) 1964  
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Patterson, Stephen W., 205 N. 7th, Guthrie Center, 50115, 1962  
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- Pettijohn, Mrs. Clyde, Shell Rock, 50670, 1960
- Pettingill, Dr. Olin S., Lab. of Ornithology, Cornell U., Ithaca, N.Y., 14850 (L) 1937
- Phelps, Mrs. Charles, 311 S. East St., Sigourney, 52591, (S) 1965
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- Putnam, Mrs. Max, 3522 38th St., Des Moines, 50310, 1965
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- Rector, Harry E., Vinton, 52349, 1942
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- Rinehart, Mr. and Mrs. Homer, Box 291, Marshalltown, 50158, (S,S) 1959
- Roberts, Dr. Mary Price, 27055 E. River, Portland, Oregon, 97222
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- Rosene, Walter, Jr., 127 Oak Circle, Gadsden, Ala., 35901, 1942
- Ross, Hollis, T., Westlawn, RR 1, Lewisburg, Pa., 17837, 1940
- Rouw, Mark, 1202 E. Sheridan, Des Moines, 50316, (J) 1969
- Rouw, Raymond, 1202 E. Sheridan, Des Moines, 50316, 1970
- Rowold, Tom, Wheatland, 52777, 1970
- Ruegnitz, Mrs. R. S., 2117 Orchard Dr., Dubuque, 52001, 1942
- Runkel, Sylvan T., 823 Federal Bldg., Des Moines, 50309, 1965
- Sage, Evan, RFD 2, Waterloo, 50701, 1942
- Sanders, Ira A., 3126 W. Jarlath, Chicago, Ill., 60645, (J) 1969
- Sauer, Dr. Pauline L., Univ. of N. Iowa, Cedar Falls, 50613, 1965
- Savage, Edward, 613 N. 16th, Marshalltown, 50158, 1969
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- Schmidt, Harry C., RR. 2, Waterloo, 50701, 1953
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- Schroeder, R. R., 790 West Hilton, Marengo, 52301, (C) 1967
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- Schwanke, Mrs. Charles, 209 Olive St., Cedar Falls, 50613, 1958
- Schwanke, Miss Maxine, 209 Olive St., Cedar Falls, 50613, 1958
- Schwartz, Dr. Charles, 1148 Staub Court N.E., Cedar Rapids, 52402, 1963
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- Trauger, David L., 1407 Summit, Ames, 50010, 1962
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- Upp, Mrs. Orville, 608 Wildwood Drive, Ottumwa, 52501, 1950
- Van Alstine, Mrs. Sewell, Box 313, Gilmore City, 50541, (S), 1957
- Van Cleve, G. Bernard, 304 S. Winebiddle St., Pittsburg, Pa., 15224, 1968
- Van Dyk, John, Box 196, Sioux Center, 51250, 1970
- Van Dyke, Gerrit D., 835 Pammel Court, Ames, 50010, 1963
- Van Liew, Miss Virginia, 3660 Grand ave., Des Moines, 50312, (S) 1969
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- Vaughn, Edward C., 201 E. Clarinda, Shenandoah, 51601, 1969
- Velie, Mrs. K. A., 1029 3rd St. S. W., Mason City, 50401, 1967
- Voltmer, Walter, 708 Ringgold St., Sigourney, 52591, 1962
- Von Ohlen, Dr. Floyd W., 705 Highland, Fairfield, 52556, (S) 1950
- Walker, Pearle, Box 244, Ottumwa, 52501, 1943
- Walters, Elizabeth, L., Rte. 1, Essex, 51638, 1965
- Ward, Norman, 3212 Candlewick Dr. Bettendorf, 52722, 1965
- Ware, Richard, 1204 W. College Ave., Jacksonville, Ill., 62650, 1962
- Weaver, Miss Gertrude S., 1425 Nebraska, Sioux City, 51105, 1946
- Webb, Dr. Morgan C., 1325 S. Newton, Sioux City, 51106, 1967
- Weber, Alois John, RR. 2, Keokuk, 52632, 1929
- Weir, Mrs. Wm. T., Gladstone, Ill., 61437, 1965
- Weller, Dr. Milton W., Iowa State Univ., Ames, 50010, 1958
- Wershofen, Miss Pauline, La Moille, Minn. 55948, 1954
- Wetteland, Jerry, 1114 Third St., Boone, 50036, 1970
- Whitmus, Mrs. Harold V., 5800 Saylor, Lincoln, Nebr., 68506, 1959
- Willis, Miss Myra C., 1720 6th Ave. S. E., Cedar Rapids, 52403, 1937
- Wiseman, Arthur J., 2073 Harrison Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio, 45214, 1965
- Wolden, Mrs. B. O., 1127 N. 5th St., Estherville, 51334, 1965
- Wolden, C. F., Wallingford, 51365, 1966
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- Zollars, Mrs. Emmett, 310 University, Shenandoah, 51601, 1966

## SOCIETIES

- Ames Audubon Soc., James Rod, 1508 Kellogg, Ames, 50010, 1970

Cedar Falls Audubon Soc., Mrs. Lloyd Collins, 1003 Clay St., Cedar Falls, 50613, 1952

Audubon Naturalists' Club of Cedar Rapids, Lester A. Bean, 232 21st St. N.W., 52404 (C) 1966

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Tri-City Bird Club, Jacob A. Frink, 1040 42nd, E. Moline, Ill. 61244, (S) 1949

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St. Ambrose College Library, Davenport, 52803, 1967

Public Library, Davenport, 52801, 1947

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Des Moines Public Library, 50309, 1931

State Traveling Library, Historical Bldg., Des Moines, 50309, 1939

Ekstrand Elem. School, 1140 15th St., DeWitt, 52742, 1970

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Indiana State Univ. Library, Evansville, Ind., 47712, 1970

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Cornell College Library, Mt. Vernon, 52314, 1945

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## Book Reviews

**An Eagle to the Sky** -- Frances Hamerstrom -- Iowa State University Press, Ames -- 142 p., many line drawings and photographs -- 1970 -- \$4.95.

A very interesting account of Mrs. Hamerstrom's work with two Golden Eagles. This book gets across much information in an easily digestible form. The first part concerns her efforts to induce Chrys, a female Golden Eagle obtained before the law banning their ownership, to breed in captivity. Although she has not yet been successful much progress has been made. Artificial insemination is the most promising technique, and her pioneer work could help with the preservation of this fine species. She also makes a strong case against the law banning eagles from ownership by falconers while they can still be killed if it is felt they are destroying livestock.

The second part of the book deals with Mrs. Hamerstrom's efforts to rehabilitate another female Golden Eagle which was taken, illegally, by a falconer because of a lice infestation in its nest. She had this bird, called Nancy, for about ten months, during which time she trained it to hunt so it could fend for itself. The bird was released in Wyoming in an area where it had an optimum chance for survival. This book makes good reading for anyone from high school age up. It is especially good in pointing out the many legal involvements which would make it impossible for the average falconer to have an eagle. Anyone who enjoys the book and would like to meet its author would be most welcome at the Hamerstrom's farm home near Plainfield, Wisconsin. A visit there was an unforgettable experience for Ed Meyer and myself several years ago. ed.

**Pictorial Guide to the Birds of North America** -- Leonard Lee Rue -- Thomas Y. Crowell Co., New York -- 368 p., 130 photographs, many maps and line drawings -- 1970 -- \$12.50.

Another book has been added to the growing number of general books on North American birds. This volume seems to this reviewer to be mistitled. From the title one might expect a book which contains pictures of most or at least many of the birds of North America. Instead the author limits himself to 82 species, less than fifteen percent of his potential scope judging by the title. These species are not even very representative, covering only 41 of the 75 possible families. They are chosen, we learn, because the author is familiar with them. A more objective title might be "Sketches of Some North American Birds", but this would probably have less appeal on a "sight unseen" basis.

Taking the book for what it really is, one finds a collection of observations by the author, some of which are very interesting. Much of the information is available from other sources, such as range and the brief statements of field marks, size, habits, nest, eggs, food and voice. The bulk of the remaining species accounts was gleaned from existing references, but it is put together in a very readable manner and includes the previously mentioned observations of the author. A prospective buyer would do well to examine this book before purchasing it, as the price seems high for the content. ed.

**Birds of Guatemala** -- Hugh C. Land -- Livingston Publishing Co., Wynnewood, Pa. -- 445 p., 44 color plates, many maps -- 1970 -- \$10.00.

A very fine regional work which fills a void in the area of field guides for Central America. This book, slightly larger than the familiar Peterson guide,

provides the basic information needed in the field in a very clear format. Each species account gives the English common name, Latin name, local Spanish names, range, subspecies found in Guatemala and its range, status, elevation, habitat, description and occasionally some general remarks which aid in field identification. The description includes length, in both English and metric units and wing cord in metric units, which help greatly when the bird is in the hand.

The plates, half by the author and half by H. Wayne Trimm, are chiefly standard field guide type with one to sixteen species per plate. A total of 295 species is illustrated, with both male and female depicted when there is a significant plumage difference. The quality is good and in many cases they are the first color plates for the species in the literature. The plates include a scale, both metric and English, to aid in size judgment.

The introduction describes the geography, climate, life zones and bird associations, ornithological history, and major gaps in distributional knowledge. Many maps are used in the introduction as well as throughout the text. The distributional maps not only show the range but, by use of various shading, the status in these areas as well as it is now known.

Any birder planning to do field work in Central America or Southern Mexico will certainly want this book. Its format is ideal for field use, a big item to consider when one realizes that very large, expensive books like *The Birds of Surinam* had to be used as field guides in this region before the publication of this book. This volume cannot be too highly recommended to anyone planning to work in the American tropics. ed.

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PETER PETERSEN, Editor